

PROCLAIM the
WONDRIOUS BIRTH
Isaac



A Series of Special Services
for Advent

The Amazing Birth of Isaac

• Darkness Becomes Light •

The God of Abr'ham Praise

**The God of Abr'ham praise, who reigns enthroned above,
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love.
Jehovah, great I Am! By earth and heav'n confessed,
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.**

P *In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit,*

C **Amen.**

P *The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;*

C **Those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined.**

(The Advent Wreath is lit.)

P *Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."*

C **"Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**

**The God of Abr'ham praise, at whose supreme command
From earth I rise and seek the joys at His right hand.
I all on earth forsake—its wisdom, fame, and pow'r—
And Him my only portion make, my shield and tow'r.**

P *Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.*

C **For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

P *Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You may be found. Let us confess our sins, confident that our gracious God forgives us.*

C **Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for Your name's sake!**

P *Peace be with you! Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ tells His Church, "If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven." I, therefore, a called and ordained pastor of His Church, by His authority forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

**The God of Abr’ham praise, whose all-sufficient grace
Shall guide me all my pilgrim days in all my ways.
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Himself my God!
And He shall save me to the end through Jesus’ blood.**

• Psalm 105 •

P Give thanks to the Lord. Call upon His name; tell the nations what He has done.

C Seek the Lord and His strength; seek His presence continually.

P O offspring of His servant Abraham, O children of Jacob His chosen: remember the miracles that God performed and the judgments that He gave.

• Psalm Response •

Tune: As with Gladness Men of Old
**Sing to God with gladsome voice;
Let His praise be known to all.
In the Lord our God rejoice;
All His wondrous works recall.
He our Lord and God alone—
Ev’rywhere His will is known.**

The Prayer of the Day

Old Testament Lesson • Genesis

17:15-19; 21:1-7

“Sarah your wife shall bear you a son.”

Epistle Lesson • Hebrews 11:8-12

“By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive.”

The Holy Gospel • Matthew 1:1-6a, 17

“Abraham was the father of Isaac.”

• Theme Hymn •

Tune: O Little Town of Bethlehem

**A child is born to Abraham, a son from Sarah’s womb;
An heir to heal their loneliness, to laugh away their gloom.
The Lord of life is working to heal a lonely earth:
Glad praises sing to heaven’s King
with glad, contagious mirth.**

• The Amazing Birth of Isaac •

God’s Gift to Abraham

Dialog Homily

**A child is born in Bethlehem, the Savior promised long
In scrolls of prophets’ promises; loud hailed in angels’ song.
Emmanuel, God with us, has come to heal the earth.
With sages, saints and angel tongues,
proclaim the wondrous birth.**

Apostles’ Creed

The Offering

The Prayers • Response

P *God of Abraham and Isaac,*
C **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

•The Benediction •

Psalm 105, Romans 15

P *O give thanks to the Lord; call upon His name; make known His deeds among the peoples!*
C **He remembers His covenant forever, the covenant that He made with Abraham.**
P *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope. In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.*
C **Amen.**

• Hymn •

Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord

Let the earth now praise the Lord,
Who has truly kept His Word
And the sinners' Help and Friend
Now at last to us does send.

What the Father most desired,
What the prophet's heart inspired,
What they longed for many a year,
Stands fulfilled in glory here.

Abram's promised great Reward,
Zion's Helper, Jacob's Lord,
Him of twofold race behold,
Truly came, as long foretold.

Lord, when You do come again
As a glorious King to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

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Proclaim the Wondrous Birth

Remaining Services

Advent Service II Dec 7
Advent Service III Dec 14
Advent Service IV Dec 21
Christmas Day Celebration

Samuel
John the Baptist
Jesus
Christians

